

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 00249 081330Z

53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 /083 W

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R 081205Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2731

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAREXDALAAM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, OAU, AO, NI

SUBJECT: GARBA LEAVES FOR ADDIS AND SAYS OAU MUST RECOGNIZE MPLA

REF: LAGOS 162

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 00249 081330Z

1. IN AIRPORT NEWS CONFERENCE JANUARY 7 PRIOR DEPARTING FOR ADDIS AND OAU MEETING, NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COL. JOSEPH GARBA TOOK UNCOMPROMISING PRO-MPLA STAND. THIS MORNING'S PRESS REPORTS COMMISSIONER TERMED ANGOLAN ISSUE "TEST CASE" FOR CONTINUED EXISTENCE OAU. HE SAID OAU HAD NO RPT NO CHOICE BUT TO RECOGNIZE MPLA GOVERNMENT.

2. COMMISSIONER SAID NIGERIA WOULD NOT RPT NOT SUPPORT ANY MOVE RECONCILE THE WARRING MOVEMENTS IN ANGOLA UNTIL THE MPLA GOVERNMENT INITIATED THE MOVE. HE ADDED THAT THIS MEANT FNLA AND UNITA WOULD HAVE TO ACCEPT FAILURE, BURY THEIR DIFFERENCES AND TEAM UP WITH THE RULING GOVERNMENT IN THE INTERESTS OF PEACE. HE SAID FMG WOULD CONTINUE SUPPORT MPLA UNTIL TOTAL INDEPENDENCE AND PEACE ACHIEVED. GARBA, REITERATING ANTI-U.S. LINE OF FMG (REFTEL)

, SAID NIGERIA WOULD LOBBY OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS IN ADDIS TO RESIST ANY AMERICAN PRESSURE.

3. GARBA ACCOMPANIED BY OTHER MEA OFFICIALS AND DIRECTOR NIGERIAN INSTITUTE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (PARA 3 LAGOS 132), DR. BOLAJI AKINYEMI.

4. COMMENT: GARBA APPEARS HAVE MADE NIGERIAN POLICY HOSTAGE TO MPLA BY HIS CATEGORIC STATEMENT THAT ONLY IF MPLA INITIATES SUCH A MOVE WOULD NIGERIA SUPPORT RECONCILIATION THREE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, TRANSITING MPLA FOREIGN MINISTER (SEPTTEL) SAYS MPLA HAS RULED OUT RECONCILIATION. ALSO INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT NIGERIAN PRESS IS LINKING GARBA'S DESCRIPTION OF ANGOLA AS TEST CASE FOR OAU WITH REPORTS OF SEKOU TOURE'S THREATS BREAK UP OAU IF IT FAILS RECOGNIZE MPLA.
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